You will be introduced to the teachings of theological and biblical studies, considering the influence of scripture on Western civilisation and faith in the contemporary world.

- We are consistently ranked top in Theology and Religious Studies in the UK in the National Student Survey.
- We are a small, closely-knit community in which staff and students work together closely.
- We offer a clearly structured, rigorous programme of study that also allows specialisation and a wide range of choice.
- We are housed in St Mary’s College, one of the most beautiful parts of the University and the home of Divinity since 1579.
- Our library, the King James Library, founded in 1612, is a bright and beautiful place for quiet study.

What will I study?
Our programmes introduce you to the teachings and practices of the Christian faith in particular, and consider the profound influence that the Jewish and Christian scriptures have had on Western civilisation while addressing both the significance of faith today and challenges to it.

First year
You can concentrate either on Theology or on Biblical Studies, or both. In Theology, you take two main courses: one on key themes in Christian theology, as they have developed in history and as we might think about them now; and one on theological ethics. In Biblical Studies, you take one course on the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible) and one on the New Testament. You can also begin to study Hebrew and/or Greek. There are optional courses on world religions and on the Bible in western culture.

Second year
You continue with either Theology or Biblical Studies, or both. In Theology, you study Christian thought and practice, as well as the history of the church from its beginning through the Middle Ages.
In Biblical Studies, you continue your study of both parts of the Bible and, if you want, of Hebrew and/or Greek. There are optional courses in science and religion.

Third and fourth years (Honours)
You will be able to study a wide range of advanced topics in Theology and Biblical Studies. Teaching will be in small seminars and will be guided by both the lecturer’s research interests and your own.

Our degree programmes:
Biblical Studies
You will explore the profound influence that the Christian and Jewish scriptures have had on western civilisation. You will focus on the Old Testament and New Testament, but you will also encounter a large number of other Jewish and Christian writings from these periods, such as the Dead Sea Scrolls. You may also have the chance to study Aramaic.
This course is particularly suited for those wanting a wider range of options across
Divinity

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Arts subjects, while still giving most of their attention to Divinity. Many students choose to take Biblical Studies alongside subjects such as Ancient History or Classical Studies in order to study important texts within the wider context of the ancient world, or with English in order to discover the way in which biblical ideas and themes have found their way into literature.

Hebrew
Our focus is on classical or biblical Hebrew, though you may also take advanced courses in post-biblical Hebrew – particularly by studying the Dead Sea Scrolls.
Modern language teaching methods are used to help beginners. For those with a background in languages, Hebrew makes a fascinating language to study as it belongs to the Semitic, as opposed to the Indo-European, family group.

New Testament
Our focus is on New Testament language and literature, though you can also take additional classes in Old Testament (Hebrew Bible) and Christian history and theology.
Modern language teaching methods are used to help beginners. For those with an existing background in Greek, advanced language classes and textual classes in the original language are available.

Theological Studies
We provide an introduction to the rich theological traditions of Christianity, covering the history of Christian theology from the early church to the modern world. You will explore ways in which Christianity is being expressed and lived out today in different areas of the world, as well as learning about the distinctive challenges to faith presented by modern secular culture.

The MA course is particularly suited for those wanting a wider range of options across Arts subjects, while still giving most of their attention to Divinity.

Master of Theology
The focus is on topics directly related to theological and biblical studies. You will study the history of Israel, the person of Jesus of Nazareth, Paul’s letters and the rapid growth of the early church, and contacts between Christianity and Greek and Roman philosophy.
You will also examine Christian thought in depth, including church history and Christian ethics. You can specialise within Divinity by studying subjects like world religions, Greek, Hebrew, the anthropology of religion, the Dead Sea Scrolls, pastoral care or moral reasoning, or pursue interdisciplinary interests through the Faculties of Arts or Science.

There is a wide and exciting range of topics studied in Divinity; in my first year alone I was taught in depth about everything from Koine Greek vocabulary to how theology can be practically applied in cities. What I really love about studying in Divinity is the friendly community atmosphere between students and staff that makes academic study so enjoyable and inspiring.

Megan (Cornwall, England)

Careers
A degree in Divinity gives you the opportunity for significant intellectual and personal development, as well as acquiring a wide range of transferable skills. Accordingly, our graduates usually have excellent success in obtaining work placements.
Those who have studied Theology or Biblical Studies have learnt a fantastic range of skills – textual, historical, analytic, creative, and interpersonal. They are in demand with employers who need rigorous but flexible thinkers with a broad knowledge base and an understanding of people and their religious and social contexts.
Recent graduates from the School of Divinity have, for example, become: graduate students in the UK and abroad, religious studies teachers, lay chaplains at schools, ordained ministers, journalists with the national and religious press. Individuals have become a trainee manager at a national bank, an art gallery assistant, a solicitor, a theatre director, a college principal, business consultant, social worker, a wine taster.

We offer Masters and doctoral degrees in Biblical Languages and Literature, in Systematic and Historical Theology, in Theology and the Arts, and in Analytic and Exegetical Theology.
Graduates have also gone on to postgraduate degrees in related areas at other top universities in the UK and across the world.